MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 MARCH 1981

Iran

Reaction to Khomeyni Guidelines--President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has welcomed Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's 16 March instructions for the settlement of differences among Iran's leaders. In a letter to Khomeyni, broadcast by Tehran radio, Bani-Sadr said his instructions will have a "decisive effect" in reassuring the people and strengthening their morale. Iran's enemies should now realize, Bani-Sadr went on, that it is futile to try to "stab the Islamic Republic in the back. The president also said that after further study he will shortly nominate a representative for the three-man committee proposed by Khomeyni.

The radio also broadcast a letter to Khomeyni from Supreme Court President Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti in which he said that Khomeyni's guidance during this "sensitive period" has gladdened the nation and weakened the enemy "fifth column." Khomeyni's insistence on observing the Constitution has clarified the duties of the Council of Guardians, Beheshti added, and has made coordination of all forces "clearer and smoother," putting an end to "doubts."

Majlis Speaker Mohammad Heshemi-Rafsanjani praised Khomeyni's "timely and appropriate message," which demonstrated his "effective and influential leadership." In a statement to the Majlis, broadcast by the radio, he noted that Khomeyni's guidelines have confirmed and and delineated the limits of authority and have put the people's minds at rest. Rafsanjani called on the Majlis to implement Khomeyni's "decree."

After the Majlis session, the majority of deputies signed a statement, broadcast by the radio, that praised Khomeyni for calming "anxious hearts" and defeating Iran's enemies, who have been creating "an unstable climate and artificial polarization." Khomeyni has presented the Constitution as the yardstick for relations between everyone, including the authorities, and has dealt a blow to "minigroups." The deputies gave an assurance that they will do everything in their power to obey Khomeyni.

The public relations office of the radio and television network responded to Khomeyni's guidelines by announcing over the radio that the proposed face-to-face radio and television debate about the events of 5 March has been canceled.

Amir-Entezam Trial--The trial of former Deputy Prime Minister 'Abbas Amir-Entezam has begun, Tehran radio reported. Citing PARS, AFP reported that former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan testified on Amir-Entezam's behalf. Bazargan said that he and former Foreign Minister Karim Sanjabi had authorized Amir-Entezam's contacts with U.S. diplomats and added that if such contacts are considered treasonous, "I could be held responsible."

Extradition Demand--ANATOLIA news agency, citing sources close to the Turkish Foreign Ministry, reported that Iran has requested the return of an Iranian Air Force colonel who earlier flew to Turkey seeking asylum.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqis Plan Strike--The Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, citing a "high-ranking Iraqi source," reported on 13 March that Iraq is planning a strong military strike against Iranian targets, using Mirage aircraft recently received from France.

Military Situation--According to Tehran radio, Iranian forces killed 100 Iraqi troops, destroyed 30 tanks and captured 60 Iraqi soldiers in a battle west of Susangerd. It

added that after several hours of fighting, the Iraqi unit was forced to retreat several kilometers. On the other hand, an Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, claimed that during the battle the Iranian unit was forced to retreat. Tehran radio also reported that Iranian troops recaptured strategic heights in the Gilan-e Gharb and Qasr-e Shirin regions and that an Iraqi aircraft was shot down over Bushehr.

Gulf Affairs

The oil ministers of the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar met in Riyadh, SPA reported. Afterward, Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani said the purpose of the meeting was to coordinate positions on current issues concerning OPEC.

Pakistan

After earlier announcing the names of 27 of the 54 prisoners released in exchange for hostages held by hijackers of a Pakistani airliner, Karachi radio has broadcast the names of the remaining 27. Their crimes, the radio said, included espionage, conspiracy against the state and the publication of clandestine subversive material.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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RATEBZAD ADDRESSES DRA PEACE ORGANIZATION CONGRESS

LD180040 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: The first national conference of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization was opened in the hall of the Ministry of High and Vocational Education with the reading of the message of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the DRA by Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Politburo member, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and member of the DRA Revolution Council Presidium.

After the reading of Babrak Karmal's message, Dr Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, member of the Revolution Council, chairman of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, gave the meeting's primary speech. It was warmly received by the audience.

[Begin Ratebzad recording] Dear friends and comrades: It is a great honor to us that today, with one voice, millions of the world's toiling and peace-loving people are gathered on the side of [words indistinct] and struggling men and women of their heroic country for the sake of the defense of the noble desire of peace for the people of our planet. This auspicious day in our country's history will be registered as an unforgettable day in the struggle for man's most humane objective--peace.

We relentless strugglers, true to the path of peace, with all the capacity and historical genius of our people, will strive so that the monster of war does not again stretch its wings over the cottages of innocent people. It is for the sake of this noble task that we are gathered here today.

We, in the path of the struggle for the elimination of American military bases and other forms of imperialism's military presence in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, [words indistinct] for safeguarding security and peace in the world and among the countries of our region, will endeavor with all our energy. [applause]

This is the determined phase and the principle goal of the extensive struggles of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of Afghanistan.

Dear friends and comrades, time puts a sensitive period behind us. Aggressive forces are engaged in encroaching against the peaceful gains of the people of the world--masks are being removed--and with their statements they appeared as well-wishers, these representatives of the capitalist system. They are searching to trample forever phrases such as dialogue, cooperation on the basis of bilateral interests, observing the legitimate interests of all parties, and so on. Instead they employ phrases of the period of the cold war and [words indistinct] of this period.

Who is there who does not ask himself: What is the aim of imperialism? Once again, we hear, day and night, phrases such as maintaining U.S. world supremacy; resorting to force; consolidating [word indistinct] and military supremacy; imposing force; and so forth, in the present revelations of these so-called defenders of human rights. What are they after? What makes them insanely fan the hysteria of war and tension and thus take the world closer to a destructive war?

The true and sincere forces of peace know that the present aggravation of the international situation is never incidental nor free from (?provocative) causes. Its starting points are not hidden in the body of this or that international incident. What the reactionary and aggressive forces want to show is that the victory of the new stage of our revolution and the presence of the limited Soviet military contigents in our country have been the start and the cause of the continuation of the present tense world situation.

Everyone knows, however, as the recent flow of events proves, that the major cause of such design, without prejudice, is its conspiratorial character. This design is, from both the current and historical points of view, incorrect, unfounded and provocative. Is it possible to forget that the imperialist conspiracies against detente were overtly set in motion as a reigning policy of imperialist governments? We could point out the hostile stand of the U.S. Congress in 1974 to the process of detente by their rejection of the SALT II treaty. As a matter of fact, Carter's coming to power and his policy of so-called defense of human rights was a move against detente and the victorious process of world peace. During recent years, that is, the years before the latest events in our country, the United States and NATO embarked on large-scale measures toward achieving military superiority and toward the aggravation of the international situation.

At the beginning of the seventies the people of the world thought that the leaders of the capitalist countries, especially the U.S. leaders, had accepted reality and realized that peaceful coexistence was (?vital) and that there was no alternative to detente. Very soon, however, Washington and its Chinese accomplices prepared themselves for a so-called acceptable, limited nuclear war and they embarked on the evaluation of the results of a first strike and of the possibility of a second strike.

The victory of the national democratic revolution of our country and the antidictatorial revolution of Iran dealt a fatal blow to U.S. neocolonialism in our region. The United States then embarked on the implementation of a new plan in our region and prepared generally for the strengthening of its military presence in the Gulf region and the Indian Ocean.

It was under such conditions and circumstances that the strong will of the sons of our noble people ended the dark reign of the traitor Amin and dealt a final blow to the greedy interests and the new design of imperialism. The U.S. criminal imperialism began to rant and rave and tried in vain to interpret its new ignominious defeat as chaos [as heard], and therefore began to spread its aggressive military presence and to strengthen its military bases.

The positive changes in our country which rescued our revolution, people and homeland, were used as a pretext, under such conditions, by imperialism. We very clearly announce that it was not the great victory of 27 December 1979 in our country which became the main reason for whipping up the arms race, if looked at realistically and objectively. It was, on the contrary, the cause of foiling aggressive military designs of imperialism in our region. The present tension has been created in our region solely as a result of the aggressive and adventurist policy of imperialism. For those who think logically, such an ingredient does not exist in our international practice, approach or (?discussions) to prepare the ground and make it possible for these fabricators to appraise the new stage of our revolution as harmful to peace. All peace-loving peoples and those with realistic feelings know very well that the existence of the provocative and oppressive government of Amin or the coming to power of a reactionary and fanatic one linked with imperialism and reaction in the region, similar to that of the As-Sadats and Ziaul Haqs in the country, would have posed a serious danger to revolutionary Iran's eastern provinces and the southern areas of the great country of the Soviets. It would have caused a serious threat to peace and stability in our region.

U.S. imperialism made every effort to transform our country into a center of aggression against the peoples and for the bloody crushing of all liberating and progressive movements in the region. The principled and healthy revolutionary forces of our country put an end to this dangerous game and chose the humane path of maintaining peace in the region and in the world.

The special DRA proposals aimed at minimizing tension in the region and beginning talks with our neighbors, in particular Iran and Pakistan, are indicative of this claim. We once again boldly announce that there is nothing in our character that is against peace. We desire fraternity and friendship among the countries and the peoples of the region and of the world. We have revealed several times that we respect the security and territorial integrity of countries and the security of any country cannot be threatened from our side.

The enemies of the revolution and the prosperity of the people set in motion a major fuss concerning the presence of the limited Soviet military contingent in Afghanistan, which has come here at the request of the highest party and government authorities of the DRA in order to help our people in repelling and rebuffing foreign aggression, whose savage acts interfere and act against peace and detente and the peace of the people of the region and, in particular, against our revolution.

Once again, we emphasize and recall that the Soviet military presence in our country is not directed against the security of any country. The overt and brazen interference and aggression of all reactionary circles of the region, under the leadership of U.S. imperialism, in our domestic affairs has made it necessary for the limited Soviet military contingent to be present in Afghanistan in order to repel these aggressions. We have announced several times and recall once again that with the presentation of reliable guarantees concerning the cessation and nonrepetition of aggression from neighboring foreign lands against our country the limited Soviet military contingent will return to its great and peace-loving country. In the fraternal presence of the Soviet troops in our country, not even a hint of intention of aggression or expansionism exists. By stating this there is no argument left to prove the demagogic claim of warmongers and aggressors.

The Indian Ocean-Persian Gulf region is being transformed at this very moment into a very tense and quarrelsome center because of the insane military destiny of imperialism. It is in this region where the hottest points of world tension, which are counted as great dangers for international peace and security and are the direct outcome of the adventurist policy of imperialist circles, exist. U.S. imperialism has stationed its savage armed forces in this region, outside of America, and they are ready at every moment to encroach on the life and property of innocent people and on the young countries of Asia and Africa. Colonialism and imperialism brazenly and greedily consider themselves as the traditional owners of these regions. The U.S. military bases in the Indian Ocean constitute a continuous chain from the countries of the Gulf to Diego Garcia and from South Africa to Australia, Japan and the Philippines in the Far East. The U.S. military bases in Oman, Kenya, Somalia and Egypt reveal other examples of the network of the military affairs of U.S. imperialism in the Persian Gulf and the coastal countries of the Indian Ocean. At this very moment the American militarists are busy transferring nuclear weapons to the Indian Ocean and increasing strategic bases in this region. The plan to create air bases for the strategic bombers and SR17 spy-planes are being implemented at this moment in Egypt. In addition to the strengthening of its military presence the United States is trying to draw the countries of the region into this dangerous game by creating aggressive political and military blocs. Criminal U.S. imperialism is therefore trying to beseige this broad region by creating a dangerous military (?force), based at Diego Garcia in the south and by the affiliation of Egypt and Israel in the west, into a new treaty which would include the United States, China and Pakistan. This dangerous plan is directed against the progressive countries of the region and, in particular, against our beloved and revolutionary country.

As a result of these designs it is the lives of our fathers, mothers and children over which bargains and dealings are going on. Here, too, an unfounded pretext has been forwarded by the warmongers. They talk of the so-called Soviet threat and desire to reach warm waters and, by planting such deceitful slogans, want to cover up the very clear danger of imperialist aggression in the region. We ask the planners of such slogans: How could a country which does not possess any kind of military base in the world, including the Indian Ocean, which has made specific, practical proposals concerning the transformation of the Indian Ocean region into a zone of peace and has asked for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from there, be a threat to peace in the region? On the contrary, events indicate that the danger to peace in the region stems from imperialists, headed by criminal U.S. imperialism. The military presence of the United States in Diego Garcia, the creation of aggressive war in the Indian Ocean, the transformation of Pakistan into a gendarme of the region and the clear military interference in the Gulf under the pretext of the "area of the U.S. vital interests" show very well from where and from whom the danger comes. It is clear that the question of a (?struggle for peace) is an inseparable part of the international class struggle.

History is the witness that international socialism is the camp for peace and the relaxation of tension in the world, while its opposite camp, imperialism, is the source of war and tension on an international scale. The warmongering role of imperialism, which is the major danger to peace, is daily taking on a clear shape.

We, while respectfully bowing our heads before the heroic fighting strugglers of the progressive forces and the peoples of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, request them to wage a courageous assault against all signs of the aggressive imperialist military presence. Past differences and discords in our thinking and beliefs cannot separate our paths toward this just and sacred struggle in the defense of peace and of (?life). We very seriously desire the solution to all disputes through peaceful means and discussions on all questions at all levels. We want the unity of all languages, colors and races against war and warmongers. This is a strong document for our victory in maintaining detente and peace over warmongering and adventurist circles. The DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization will make every effort and will direct all its force toward the consolidation of peace and security in our region and toward the further strengthening of fraternal links among peoples all over the world.

GANDHI, SEKOU TOURE HOLD TAKLS IN DELHI 17 MAR

BK171625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] President of Guinea Ahmed Sekou Toure, who arrived in New Delhi this morning, had wide-ranging talks on bilateral matters and international developments with Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi in the afternoon. External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao also called on him later and had a general exchange of views, mainly on the international situation.

During their 1 and 1/2 hour meeting, held without aides, President Sekou Toure and Mrs Gandhi gave each other an assessment of developments in their respective regions. The visiting president also briefed Mrs Gandhi about the recent Islamic summit held at At-Ta'if and the discussions held by the conference delegation in Baghdad and Tehran in a bid to end the conflict between Iran and Iraq. He said certain proposals are being evolved and reactions of the two sides ascertained. The Islamic committee is likely to visit to meet them again, probably next month. Both leaders have agreed that it is such situations which create conditions for outside interference in a region.

In the bilateral sphere, the two leaders agreed that mutual cooperation should be expanded both in range and content.

The Guinea president complimented India on its remarkable progress, particularly in agriculture, which has enabled it to become self-sufficient in food.

Six ministers in President Sekou Toure's entourage had a separate meeting with an Indian ministerial delegation on prospects of expanding bilateral cooperation.

USSR SIGNS CONTRACT TO IMPORT INDIAN TEXTILES

BK181007 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The export of woolen and cotton knitwear to the Soviet Union gets a big boost with the finalization of new contracts worth more than 720 million rupees. The contract was signed in New Delhi between the visiting Soviet trade delegation and representatives of Indian firms.

DELHI RADIO CRITICIZES U.S. ATTITUDE ON LAW OF SEA

BK171226 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1015 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Commentary by S. Sahay of the Delhi STATESMAN]

[Text] The Law of the Sea Conference which began in New York on March 9th with the earlier expectation of finalizing the draft convention has proved to be a nonstarter. The reason is simple: The Reagan administration has willed that this be so. It has instructed the American delegation to the conference to seek to ensure that negotiation does not end at the present session of the conference pending a policy review by the U.S. Government.

UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim has expressed his deep regret over the new development, and, subsequently, American officials have tried to explain that this is by no means an extraordinary measure.

This explanation cannot be taken at its face vaule. The fact is that prospective American miners of the deep seabed have been agitating that the Carter administration has given away too much already and that the compromise arrived at the Law of the Sea Conference has put too much fetters on them.

What has been the compromise formula? Simply put, the draft convention envisages a parallel system in which a prospective miner--a state of a company--will offer two mining sites, one to be allocated to the miner and the other to be reserved to be exploited by (?enterprise) the executive arm of the proposed international seabed authority. There are detailed provisions about the supply of technical know-how by miners to (?ebterprise) and how funds are to be raised.

What needs to be borne in mind is that the USA has already adopted its own national legislation, called the deep seabed hard mineral resources act. It assumes that the law of the sea negotiations may not be completed in the near future. As [word indistinct] as they are, much time would elapse before an international regime is established. Further--and this is the point--potential investors cannot work in an atmosphere of uncertainty, especially when any development of technology required for the exploitation and recovery of hard mineral resources will require substantial investment for many years before commercial production can occur.

The U.S. act therefore establishes an interim legal regime to allow its nationals to develop the right kind of technology and to go ahead with actual or potential exploitation until the law of the sea treaty comes into force with respect to the USA. The self-imposed limitation is that no license will be issued before June this year and no exploitation take place before the 1st of January 1988. The dates, one may exphasize, are related to the state of U.S. technology. The Federal Republic of Germany has passed a similar legislation; the United Kingdom has already introduced a bill; and Belgium, France and Japan are in the process of doing so.

The American legislation envisages the farming out of mines among the nations, which can mean only developed nations. It is clear, therefore, that as far as deep seabed mining is concerned the USA has no great stake in having the law of the sea treaty, except perhaps the desirability of internally legalizing the process, nor have the other advanced nations.

Militarily, the USA has better reason to go in for the law of the sea treaty. After all, the uniform expansion of the territorial sea limit to 12 miles as has already been done by many nations would affect about 100 straits. In most of these, the USA is vitally interested, because it wants smooth passage of its warships and overflights. The lack of an international treaty can cause problems.

All in all, until the USA is able to reorient its policy, the fate of the Law of the Sea Convention will hang in the balance. What the attitude of the Third World, which has labored for 10 years over the draft convention, will be remains to be seen; but it cannot be tolerated if the USA makes major changes in the compromise already arrived at or wholly scuttles the proposed treaty.

CALCUTTA PAPER WARY OF U.S.-PAKISTAN ARMS DEAL

BK180249 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 9 Mar 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Responding to Pakistan"]

[Text] While the objective of closer ties with Pakistan must continue to inspire Mrs Gandhi's government, the drift of Islamabad's thinking offers little scope for an early rapprochement. Even a summit meeting, mooted by Pakistan's controlled press, is unlikely to serve much purpose until New Delhi can feel more sanguine about President Ziaul Haq's regional aims. His recent statements suggest a somewhat naive unawareness of the contradiction between high expectations of resumed military aid from the Reagan administration and apparent hopes of placing relations with India on an even keel. Even making allowance for what Pakistanis might dismiss as New Delhi's neurosis, a genuine desire in Islamabad to build bridges should take realistic note of Indian sensibilities. Memories of three wars in which Pakistani troops were equipped by the USA, apprehensions regarding General Zia's nuclear ambitions, and the understandable reaction to the fact that more than two-thirds of Pakistan's Army is deployed along the Indian border, are bound to influence this country's attitude to even an informal military alliance between Pakistan and the USA.

General Zia's plea that there is no comparison between the two countries, or Mr Agha Shahi's assertion that since Pakistan is not engaged in an arms race with India U.S. military supplies should be unconditional, will certainly not remove misgivings. They have, in fact, been reinforced by maladroit attempts to involve China and the Islamic Conference in sub-continental disputes and by intemperate references to Kashmir and even to Indian Muslims. The vitiated atmosphere makes it impossible for New Delhi to accept at face value the thesis that Afghanistan's occupation and the reported Soviet annexation of the Vakhan strip justify Pakistani rearmament on a massive scale. Carrying the logic a step further, General Zia implies that India too is threatened and should, therefore, welcome Pakistani militarism, a postulage that betrays an innocence of Mrs Gandhi's global views and predilections. However, the arguments will probably seem plausible to Washington; all the evidence suggests that General Zia is playing on Mr Reagan's obsessive anti-communism to obtain not only the $4,000 million of military aid that Mr Carter would not provide, but also to convert into a formal treaty the promise allegedly given in 1959 of U.S. assistance in the event of Soviet aggression.

This prospect of the domino theory again intruding in South Asia presents India with a challenge that can be ignored only at the risk of further exacerbating regional tension. The stalemate between India and Pakistan might ordinarily have advised a period of correct rather than cordial relations, deferring overt efforts to reactivate the Simla Agreement until suspicion on both sides had been allayed. But such passivity might be less than adequate response to a situation in which a favourable U.S. reply to Pakistani lobbying might not only impose a heavier defence burden on India, but could also invite some form of Soviet action. It may be too much to hope that New Delhi will easily be able to persuade Washington that democratic stability in Pakistan would create a more effective bulwark than a military dictator's powerful army. But President Reagan and Mr Haig might yet see the folly of trying to replace the shah of Iran with General Zia, or of basing long-term strategy on weapons instead of the political viability of the USA's allies.

SAUDI PRINCE, ZIAUL HAQ DISCUSS FINANCIAL COOPERATION

BK180720 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Saudi Prince Muhammad al-Faysal, who is currently visiting Pakistan, met with President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi last evening. They exchanged views on the possibilities of investing in the banking and insurance sectors of the two countries. The Saudi prince commended the efforts of the Pakistani Government to develop monetary institutions in line with Islamic principles.

The prince also met with officials of the agriculture and industry ministries. He exchanged views with them on cooperation in sectors in which Saudi Arabia can invest so that the people of two fraternal Muslim countries might benefit under an Islamic economic system. The Saudi Prince revealed that a team of Saudi experts will soon visit Pakistan to hold detailed talks on starting joint ventures in the areas of fertilizer, cement, sheet glass, caustic soda, paper and chemicals.

PRISONERS EXCHANGED FOR HOSTAGES IN DAMASCUS LISTED

WA180944 [Editorial Report] Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu at 1500 GMT on 16 March carried two reports listing the names of the prisoners who were exchanged for the hostages aboard the Pakistani airliner that had been hijacked to Damascus. Of the 54 prisoners, 7 were being held in connection with the Liaquatbagh shooting incident; 21 were charged with subversion, arms smuggling, arson and looting; 5 were on trial for murder; 2 were arrested for espionage and conspiracy against the state; 8 were charged with spreading chaos and suspicion among the armed forces; 9 were arrested for publishing subversive materials and 2 were arrested for engaging in unspecified illegal activities.

According to an AFP report of 1347 GMT on 16 March, almost all of the prisoners were members of the Pakistani People's Party of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto.

CHARGES FILED AGAINST TWO AIRLINE HIJACKERS

BK171537 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The Federal Investigation Agency [FIA] has filed a case against Salamulla Tippu and Nassir Jamal [only two names as heard] for the hijacking of the Pakistan International Airline Boeing 720. An investigation team headed by a deputy director of the FIA will also inquire as to how the hijackers of the aircraft boarded the plane with weapons, or whether someone gave them weapons on the plane.

In another criminal case, the additional city magistrate of Karachi has charged Salamulla Tippu with absconding. He was being tried for alleged involvement in kidnapping and threatening to kill a person named (Sikander Hayat).

BEHESHTI URGES OBSERVANCE OF KHOMEYNI GUIDELINES

LD171824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Following the statement by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Beheshti, the president of the country's Supreme Court, today sent the following letter to the imam of the nation:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. His Excellency Ayatollah ol-Ozma Imam Khomeyni, the dear leader and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, may peace and God's mercy be upon you. The guidance coming from the kind and awake heart of that dear imam for the preservation of the country and the Islamic Republic during this sensitive period has gladdened the dear nation and the pious and sincere friends and has weakened and disheartened the adventurist enemy fifth column.

The necessity for observing the standards set by the Constitution by all officials and organizations that have been endorsed in the guidance has made clearer the duties of the Council of Guardians in expressing the [word indistinct] based on the principles of the Constitution, has rendered coordination of all the forces clearer and smoother and has put an end to the doubts concerning this matter.

The judicial power, too, by stressing and observing to a greater degree the standards of justice and equality, will continue to strive toward performing its grave duty, administering justice.

I hope that Almighty God will give us success in the performance of our duty and in our confrontation with the aggressive enemy and its lackeys, and let the leadership of the dear imam upon the dear nation prevail.

With best wishes.

[Signed] Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyni Beheshti, 17 March 1981

DETAILS OF 17 MAR OPEN MAJLIS SESSION REPORTED

Raja'i Presents Budget

LD171150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpt] According to a Central News Bureau report, the Islamic Consultative Assembly held an open session today. This session, started at 0830 today with the recitation of some verses from the glorious Koran under the chairmanship of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, presented a bill on the first 2 months of the budget for the year 1360 [beginning 21 March 1981] with an urgent clause. Its urgency was approved.

According to this report, while presenting this bill Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, made a short speech. He said: Despite all the attempts of the Cabinet to draw up the budget for the year 1360, unfortunately we are unable to present the entire budget to the Majlis. Therefore, in order to carry out the necessary actions and continue the work of the year 1359 we are presenting two twelfths of the budget to the Majlis, which includes both the current budget as well as the development budget for the first 2 months. Concerning the need for the urgency of this bill the prime minister said: We require funds from the beginning of 1360 and if they are delayed this will affect the affairs of the country.

The same report says that in today's open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly the bill on the nationalization of foreign trade was discussed in the second sitting and after speeches by a number of deputies for and against, the bill was approved with a decisive majority. This single-article bill says:

In the implementation of principle 44 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the government is duty bound to carry out the necessary studies on an investigation into the nationalization of foreign trade within 2 months, and to present the resultant bill to the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

Rafsanjani on Khomeyni Statement

LD171408 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1045 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Statement by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Majlis, at the 17 March open Majlis session in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Before dealing with the agenda we heard the imam's timely and appropriate message and as we expected--in the circumstances in which these guidelines were badly needed--the imam once again demonstrated his effective and influential leadership. His remarks put the minds of the people at rest, calmed the official and legitimate organizations of the country and confirmed and delineated the limits of authority in each case.

We thank and welcome this liberating and morale-boosting message. Our brothers, the Majlis deputies, are expected to implement this decree and we are sure that they will do so, just as in the past they have followed the imam's policy and have been faithful to the imam's leadership. We are quite prepared to implement this decree since we are aware that it can solve all of our problems under the present critical conditions.

Once again we beseech God to grant health, long life and success more than ever to our esteemed and dear leader, the brave and revolutionary people of our country, the noble deputies and other related organizations.

Deputies on Statement

LD171438 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] At the conclusion of today's Majlis session, a response by Majlis deputies to the imam's message of last night was read. The following letter was signed by a majority of the deputies: [read by announcer]

In His exalted name. "God's remnant is better for you, if you are believers. Oh, my people, what think you? I will not do something myself which I have forbidden you to do. I desire only to set things right, so far as I am able. My succor is only with God. In him I have put my turst, and to him I turn, penitent." [Koranic verse]

The esteemed imam, this inheritor of all imams, this iconoclast of history and this great captain of the ship of the era, has once again led the nation's storm-stricken ship toward the calm and secure shore, thus quieting the anxious hearts of millions of pained and revolutionary people. He has demonstrated in action that neither America nor any other satanic forces can do anything.

The enemies of Islam and mankind, led by the arch-satan, after being repeatedly defeated by the immutable will emanating from the faith of the nation, most recently in connection with the savage aggression of the Iraqi Ba'thists--an aggression which will sooner or later result in the fall of Saddam--have been trying to defea-t this revolution through domestic plots by creating an unstable climate and artificial polarization.

But, as a result of the prophet-like leadership of the imam of the nation, they are facing defeat. The imam, whose existence perpetuates the long dynasty of divine leadership in history, from above the confrontations and disputes as the only leading and unifying agent, changed and transformed the scene in favor of Islam and the nation. Thus, his decisive and divine position rendered this great plot void. The imam, who has always relied on the miraculous might of the Muslim nation, has once again presented the Constitution as the basis and standard for deeds and as the yeardstick for relations between everyone, including the authorities, so that we may not forget that the requirement for such a system, as demanded by the nation, is the Constitution inspired by Islam.

The imam deals a blow to the minigroups and deviated and anti-Islamic processes that have recently entered the scene of clashes more actively. The imam condemns any illegal act and orders the nation to safeguard legal institutions and to avoid weakening instituions and figures, which would ultimately lead to the weakening of the Islamic Republic. Thus, the unique role of Islamic government leadership during a sensitive period has resulted in the restoration of calm and unity. Consequently, it proves to everyone that the only road to salvation, achievement of the pinnacle of Islamic aspirations and victory over foreign and domestic enemies is to obey the imam. The nation's immutable unity is based on this axis.

The people's representatives at the Islamic Consultative Assembly, while renewing their allegiance to the great leader, express their assurances that they will do everything in their power to obey the imam. While presenting their deepest gratitude to the great leader of the Islamic revolution, they beseech God for the greatness of Islam and for the victory of the valiant Islamic sons over the forces of blasphemy. They beseech God Almighty for the long life of the imam of the nation. [names of signatories not give]

Khomeyni Meeting Scheduled

LD181104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The public relations office of the Islamic Consultative Assembly has asked all deputies to be at Imam Khomeyni's residence at 0900 [0530 GMT] Thursday, 19 March, in order to meet with the imam, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

No New Year Celebration

GF171545 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Some 184 Majlis deputies today addressed an appeal to the Iranian people in which they referred to the crimes of the aggressor Iraqi regime, the martyrdom of our youth, and the dispersal of our citizens and urged cancellation of Nowruz [New Year] ceremonies in accordance with Imam Khomeyni's call. The appeal says in part: We members of the Majlis will not hold any celebrations during Nowruz. We urge the revolutionary Muslim people to refrain from all celebrations and unnecessary expenditure. Such expenses should be allocated to the victims of the war. Show sympathy for the families of martyrs and war victims and visit them.

BANI-SADR RECEIVES DEFENSE, ENERGY MINISTERS

GF171540 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] President and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr received National Defense Minister and Air Force Commander Colonel Fakuri this morning.

They discussed matters concerning the Ministry of National Defense and the air force.

President Bani-Sadr also met with Energy Minister brother 'Abbaspur. They discussed ways of insuring energy supply and Energy Ministry affairs.

BANI-SADR TOURS KHUZESTAN, HEARS REPORTS

LD171744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] According to PARS, Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and the commander in chief of the armed forces, this afternoon departed for Khuzestan to review the situation at the battlefronts. According to the same report, this evening the president inspected operations behind the battlefront in Khuzestan Province. Brigadier General Fallahi, the acting chief of the Joint Staff, and other officials informed the president of the progress being made. Mr Bani-Sadr, while chatting with the personnel of the mobilization and the armed forces who are engaged in round-the-clock work and efforts in this area, paid tribute to them.

KHALKHALI SPEECH AT MAJLIS SESSION RIDICULED

LD180845 Tehran ENQELAB-E ESLAMI in Persian 8 Mar 81 p 1, 12

[Unattributed report: "Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali at Open Majlis Session: 'Bani-Sadr Was the Club Wielders' Commander and It Is He Who Is the Chief Culprit'"]

[Text] During his preagenda speech before yesterday's Islamic Consultative Assembly's open session, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali voiced strong criticism of the president and said that there should be an explanation as to why there had been a change of venue [for the 5 March rally] from Ahmadabad, where facilities for speeches are adequate, to Tehran University. I am now giving this gentleman an answer: I am the shar' [religious law] magistrate, and I judge things from this viewpoint. We must see who it was who gave the club wielders their orders. Their commander was Bani-Sadr, and he is the chief culprit."

Becoming excited and emotional, Khalkhali then resorted to insults, and under the pretext of criticism said that "the president has trampled the Constitution underfoot and should be dismissed from his post by the ulema in the various provinces. There should be a ruling by the Supreme Judicial Council and the president of the state Supreme Court to the effect that he is politically unsuited to serve."

He then appealed to Mr Saduqi, Rabbani-Shirazi, Taheri, Dastgheyb and Madani to help by stating their views, and he got so carried away that he tore the copy of ENQELAB-E ESLAMI he was holding which contained the imam's speech and documents related to the club wielders.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES LEBANESE 'AMAL DELEGATION

GF171757 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, this afternoon received members of the Lebanese 'Amal Movement Command and a group of the movement's fighters. The leader of the Islamic revolution recalled the struggle carried out by Ayatollah Musa as-Sadr and wished them success.

ESPIONAGE TRIAL OF AMIR-ENTEZAM BEGINS 17 MAR

LD171124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, the trial of 'Abbas Amir-Entezam began this morning with readings from the holy Koran, presided over by Ayatollah Mohammadi Gilani at the first branch of the Central Islamic Revolution Court. 'Abbas Amir-Entezam was arrested by the office of the revolution public prosecutor after the occupation of the den of espionage and revelations made by the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy about 15 months ago. This session ended after the text of the indictment was read by the public prosecutor at noon; the next session will be held after the New Year holiday.

AFP Report

NC172210 Paris AFP in English 2147 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Tehran, 17 Mar (AFP)--The trial of a former Iranian Government official accused of spying for the United States opened in Tehran's Evin jail today, the official PARS NEWS AGENCY reported here.

'Abbas Amir-Entezam, a spokesman for the former provisional government of Premier Mehdi Bazargan, was arrested after the publication of documents seized in the U.S. Embassy which showed he had been in contact with U.S. diplomats.

Mr Bazargan, now a member of parliament, was at today's hearing to testify in favour of Mr Amir-Entezam.

The former premier, who resigned after the take-over of the U.S. Embassy in November 1979, said his spokesman received permission from himself and from former Foreign Minister Karim Sanjabi to contact the diplomats, PARS said.

Because Iran lacked sophisticated counter-espionage techniques, it was decided to ask the Soviet Embassy to keep an eye on the Americans, and on the U.S. Embassy to watch the Russians, Mr Bazargan told the court.

Mr Amir-Entezam's contacts with U.S. diplomats could, therefore, not be considered secret or treacherous, he added.

If that is considered as a crime or treason, I could be held responsible, and not him (Amir-Entezam), PARS quoted the former premier as saying.

EDUCATION MINISTER RECEIVES GDR AMBASSADOR

LD171254 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, the GDR ambassador this morning met and conferred with Dr Mohammad Javad Bahonar, minister of education and training of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At this meeting the minister of education and training expressed his views about the trip he made to the GDR with an Iranian delegation on the occasion of the anniversary of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said: Although this visit was very short, it was still very useful to us in describing the gains of the Islamic revolution of Iran. A report has been produced about this visit which is being studied. Dr Bahonar added: A delegation will be sent by the cultural revolution headquarters to East European countries, including the GDR, to observe and study the cultural and educational systems in those countries.

Concerning economic matters Dr Bahonar said: We can have relations with those countries whose economic relations with us will not result in the domination of Iran and which will lead us toward greater production and self-sufficiency. He added: In the political domain we can expand our relations with those countries which respect the ideology and the positions of our Islamic revolution. We expect our friends to recognize and confirm our rightful position in the war imposed by Iraq and to clearly condemn the country which attecked us. It was the Iraqi regime which started the aggression and the aggressor should leave our country as soon as possible.

After the comments by the minister of education and training of the Islamic Republic of Iran the GDR ambassador thanked him for today's meeting and said: As you emphasized we are prepared to cooperate with you in cultural fields, especially concerning the technical staff of schools, technology, commerce and air links, without interfering in the ideology of your Islamic revolution. The GDR ambassador also referred to the position of his government toward the Islamic Republic of Iran and said: Even now our government is fully prepared to expand international relations on the basis of the observance of the principles of noninterference and independence.

RAJA'I'S ADVISER MEETS ERITREAN REPRESENTATIVE

GF151728 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] The Eritrean Liberation Front's representative in Tehran met today with Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the government's political adviser and deputy prime minister [as heard]. During the meeting, brother Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that the idea that was formerly prevailing in the world was based on the servitude of the small and weak countries to the United States and the West or to the Soviet Union and the East. The Islamic revolution in Iran invalidated this idea through the steadfastness and resistance of our people in confronting the superpowers and the countries allied to them in the region. It also proved that no power can stand in the face of the people, however weak or small they may be, if these people rely on God and on their massive strength.

SPANISH ENVOY MEETS WITH TRANSPORT MINISTER

GF161232 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] The Spanish ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Spanish trade attache met with the minister of roads and transport, brother Musa Kalantari, this morning. They discussed issues of bilateral interest, particularly the issue of docks and navigation.

TEHRAN CITES REPORTS ON EGYPT-ISRAEL MILITARY PACT

GF161552 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Citing Western diplomatic sources, Lebanese press reports said today that Eygptian President Anwar as-Sadat visited Jerusalem in mid-February and concluded a military agreement with Menahem Begin, prime minister of the Zionist entity. The agreement reportedly provides for military coordination between Egypt and the Zionist entity. The reports revealed that the secret agreement includes a provision for carrying out a series of assassinations in the Arab homeland--a vital ingredient of the new U.S. policy. Egyptian and Zionist agents are currently receiving special training in a CIA base in Indiana in the United States.

Citing a well-informed Arab source, the Lebanese press says that leaflets were distributed in military barracks in Egypt early this month.

The leaflets warned that As-Sadat is implementing the second chapter of the Camp David accords: destruction of the Egyptian Army by embroiling it in adventures which could lead to fighting between the army's various units. Other adventures would lead to the dissipation of the Egyptian Armed Forces' strength internationally.

The said source asserted that Egypt is seeking to destroy the Egyptian Army by throwing it into the Persian Gulf. One of the leaflets refers to "the Americans who will pass over our bodies to the oilfields," and emphasizes that As-Sadat is now representing U.S. policy in a [word indistinct] manner.

Referring to Egyptian Army presence in Oman, the source said: The presence of these units may have a definite purpose. It is part of a big strategic process aimed at rearranging the situation in the Middle East.

RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVE CONDEMNS IRAQI 'CRIMES'

GF171816 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The International Red Cross [IRC] representative has called for referring Saddam's crimes to the United Nations. In a press interview published in Tehran, the IRC representative, who toured residential areas that were the targets of air and missile attacks by the Iraqi regime's forces, asserted that the Iraqi regime's crimes will be discussed by the IRC General Assembly, which meets in Geneva on 27 April 1981, and should also be referred to the United Nations.

He urged the Government of the Islamic Republic to refer these crimes to the United Nations. The Iranian Government has delegated him to do so.

IRAQ PREVENTS RED CROSS VISIT TO TONDGUYAN

GF161820 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] The Baghdad authorities have refused to allow the Red Cross special Middle East representative to visit brother Mohammad Javad Tondguyan, the abducted Iranian oil minister who is at present in Iraq. The International Red Cross official who arrived in Tehran from Baghdad said during his meeting with the supervisor of the Iranian Red Crescent Society that the conditions of Iraqi prisoners in Iran are much better than the conditions of Iranian prisoners in Iraq.

Citing Mr (Hanluger), the special representative of the Red Cross in the Middle East, the supervisor of the Red Crescent Society in the Islamic Republic said that he was charged in Geneva with visiting Iraq and studying the conditions of prisoners of war. He said Mr (Hanluger) made every effort to visit the Iranian oil minister, kidnapped by Saddam's mercenaries, but his request was consistenly rejected by the Baghdad regime.

Mohammad Javad Tondguyan, the oil minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was abducted by Saddam's mercenaries in November 1980 while inspecting oil installations in southern Iran.

AL-HAKIM DISCUSSES WAR WITH ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR

GF161334 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Text] Algerian Ambassador in Tehran Abdelkarim Ghraieb met with Hojjat ol-Eslam Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim today. They discussed the conditions of world Muslims in general and events in Iraq and southern Lebanon in particular.

During the talks Hojjat ol-Eslam al-Hakim referred to Saddam's inhuman actions against the Muslim Iraqi and Iranian peoples and to the executions, savage torture and arrests perpetrated by Saddam's regime against the Muslim Iraqi people and ulema.

Hojjat ol-Eslam al-Hakim said: The flagrant Iraqi aggression against the Islamic revolution is part of the vile plots by the superpowers and their agents. The superpowers have instigated their surrogate, Saddam, to launch this aggression against Iran, believing they could destroy this great revolution.

14 IRAQI 'MUSLIM BROTHERS' REQUEST ASYLUM

GF121548 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] Our correspondent in Kermanshah reports that 14 Iraqi Muslim brothers have requested asylum in Iran during the past 48 hours as a result of pressure that has been exerted on them by the fascist Iraqi regime.

OFFICIAL SAYS JEWS PROUD TO FIGHT AGAINST IRAQIS

LD121840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, this afternoon ceremonies commemorating Jewish martyrs were held at the Abrishami synagogue attended by a large group of Tehran's Jews and the families of the martyrs. At this ceremony the deputy of the Tehran Jewish Society said in a speech: Iranian Jews are proud and honored that they are crusading alongside with their Muslim brothers and offering martyrs. He added: We also hope to be sacrificed and give our lives for truth, the glory of the flag, unity and the establishment of the rule of God.

Another speaker, the Tehran rabbi, referring to the war imposed on Iran by Iraq said: The Iraqis call themselves Muslims and say that they believe in the one God. If this claim is true and they only believe in God, why do they attack families with missiles with a heart of darkness and kill children, women and the aged?

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 437, 438

437: Operations in South, West

LD161740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Communique 437 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. A part of the activities and operations of the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and a part of events on the war fronts over the past 24 hours are brought to the public's attention as follows:

1. In the south of the country, the intensity of enemy firing on Abadan's fronts has been greater than that on other fronts. On this front our brave heroes, opening fire on the positions of the aggressive army of Saddam, destroyed one mortar, one semi-heavy [as heard] 106-mm gun with vehicle and crew, one machinegun trench with crew, one military vehicle and a number of group and individual bunkers of Saddam's army, killing a number of the aggressive soldiers. Also, near the Abadan-Mahshahr road, one enemy ammunition dump was destroyed. On the Darkhovin-Mared front, thanks to ground forces artillery fire, one tank, four group and individual bunkers, one tank position and one mortar position of Saddam's army were set ablaze and a number of the aggressors were killed or wounded.

2. In the west of the country, in the Ilam region, a number of enemy trenches were destroyed, four of the Iraqi forces were killed and three were wounded on one of the fronts by Iranian artillery fire. In the Marivan region, enemy mortar positions in (Quklu) and (Kanpe Milan) were brought under accurate fire and extensive damage and casualties were inflicted on Saddam's army.

In the Gilan-e Gharb region, the combative gendarme brothers destroyed two enemy tanks. During another operation on three fronts in the western region, nine enemy trenches, two vehicles, one cannon, one crane and one truck carrying personnel were destroyed and a large number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded.

While announcing the martyrdom of 15 self-sacrificing combatants who were defending the Islamic homeland on 14 March, and expressing gratitude for the ungrudging assistance of the people of Kerman, which has raised the hopes and morale of the military brothers, bulldozer and grader drivers are invited to cooperate in the operational areas. The assistance of these volunteers on the battle scene will make Almighty God happy. In order to declare your cooperation, please call telephone numbers 844107 and 849891, the headquarters for the logistic command mobilization of the ground forces.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

438: Progress at Battlefronts

LD171750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Communique 438 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The following are some of the operations carried out by the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and a report on the situation on the battlefronts of the imposed war which are brought to the attention of our dear compatriots:

1. This morning the self-sacrificing combatants of the ground forces, with help from the gendarmerie fighters, brother guards and other people's forces, in a coordinated assault succeeded in expelling the mercenary, aggressive Iraqi Army forces from the Shoghalmand heights in Qasr-e Shirin and in occupying the same. Accurate figures on the number of Iraqi aggressors captured and fallen as casualties will be reported later.

2. An aggressive enemy aircraft came under fire over Bushehr and was shot down by the antiaircraft forces guarding our Islamic homeland.

3. An exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued on the Abadan fronts. Thanks to fire opened by the combatants of our armed forces, 3 enemy vehicles, 2 ammunition dumps, 16 special enemy squad trenches and foxholes were destroyed and a number of servicemen from Saddam's army were either killed or wounded. As a result of enemy artillery fire, a few houses were destroyed in Abadan and six people were wounded.

4. On the Ahvaz and Karkheh Kur fronts, the combatants of the ground forces, while silencing enemy fire, subjected their positions to intense artillery and heavy weapons bombardment and succeeded in destroying one enemy tank and a quantity of equipment and instruments of war while halting all enemy movements. On these fronts 34 Iraqi Army servicemen were killed or wounded.

5. At 1545 yesterday the Iraqi mercenaries subjected the city of Dezful to their artillery fire, as a result of which two were wounded and damage resulted.

6. In the western parts of the country, on the Kan-e Sakht front, at midday Sunday our gendarmerie fighters opened fire on the positions of the aggressive Iraqi mercenaries deployed in the hills of the region and, while destroying one enemy vehicle, killed or wounded a number of servicemen from Saddam's army.

7. In the Sardasht region, yesterday another six Iraqi civilians, fed up with the oppression of the Baghdad rulers, surrendered to the Sardasht gendarmerie and sought asylum in the Islamic homeland.

8. During the operations on 15 March 1981, the combatants of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran suffered a total of three martyrs on all fronts.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

SHIRAZ GUARDS ISSUE CODE OF CIVIC CONDUCT

GF171944 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1830 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text of resolution issued by Shiraz revolution guards on 17 March]

[Text] 1. If antiregime persons and groups are observed trying with sit-ins and demonstrations to divert public attention from the subject of the war and struggle against the great Satan, the United States, endeavoring to introduce spurious and artificial problems within (?the country), try to identify their ringleaders and (?report) them to the authorities. Avoid any confrontation or violence.

2. Obey all civic instructions, especially driving regulations, because disorder causes [words indistinct] and could create incidents that the enemy seeks, that is, chaos and confusion.

3. Keep an eye on dubious people and groups.

4. When buying and selling, have regard for your turn in line so that there is no pretext for commotion or intrigue, which usually occurs through counterrevolutionaries or their supporters.

5. Pay attention so that militant and anti-Islamic minigroups do not enter private homes on the pretext of collecting statistics during the New Year holidays, especially houses of martyrs. They have ransacked premises (?previously). It is essential that Muslims, in accordance with their religious duties and the repeated advice of Imam Khomeyni, visit the families of martyrs and those who are fighting for the revolution in the New Year season and help solve their porblems as much as possible.

6. Put up posters and write slogans in work places and daily life in memory of the martyrs and their main objective, that is, upholding the motto of the revolution: Freedom, the Islamic Republic and "Neither East nor West; let us be Islamic."

7. Prevent rumormongering scrupulously and do not speak without proof of reason. To do otherwise is to supply an excuse to the counterrevolution.

8. If you see simple or ignorant persons join the undisciplined or say something which is not true, point out their mistakes affectionately and respectfully and guide them.

GUARDS CORPS STATEMENT ON BATTLE SUCCESSES

LD161744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Summary] According to PARS, the following statement was issued by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On the southern fronts, in the region of Hamidiyeh, our self-sacrificing brother guards, with the cooperation of the army, blew up a great (?dam) the enemy had constructed across the Karkheh Kur River.

As a result, water gushed rapidly toward the Iraqi infidels' positions and the invaders fled the battlefield. After destroying the dam, our brothers in the Airborne Division pounded the enemy position with artillery fire and forced the Iraqi invaders to retreat even further.

A lone enemy tank was destroyed west of Susangerd by mortar fire from our brother guards. One enemy vehicle, one personnel carrier and several trenches were also destroyed. In the same region and on the Saleh Moshattat front, our brother guards destroyed two enemy tanks, one vehicle and one trench with 10 infidel personnel deployed in it.

Army artillery fire, carried out with observation of the revolution guards, destroyed enemy positions in Dehlaviyeh, in the Susangerd region, and a large number of the aggressors were either killed or wounded.

On the Darkhovin axis, our brother guards opened heavy fire on enemy positions, destroying 2 enemy tanks and killing or wounding more than 10 Iraqi mercenaries.

On the western fronts, the Biareh bridge, which was an important enemy supply route, was destroyed. With observation by brother guards and artillery fire from the armed forces stationed in Marivan, a number of enemy personnel in the border regions were either killed or wounded.

During mopping-up operations in the villages of Sheykh Kurek, Jute and Nanah, in the region of Marivan, by our brother guards and the Muslim Kurdish peshmerga, 13 counter-revolutionaries were arrested and handed over to the Islamic Revolution Court of Marivan.

[Signed] The public relations office of the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

ANTI-KHOMEYNI MOVEMENTS REPORTEDLY INCREASING

NC141052 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] A report by a Free Voice of Iran correspondent says that Khomeyni's so-called Islamic Republic is once again facing a growing wave of opposition from the Iranian nation. This report states that in our homeland's big cities the people have formed various groups in order to undertake, once a national insurrection arises against the regime of the mullahs, specific duties to support it against the mercenary troops of the revolution guards.

In his report, the Free Voice of Iran correspondent adds: In recent days clashes have taken place in different parts of Tehran in opposition to the mullahs' regime. It seems that Khomeyni and Bani-Sadr are increasingly losing the support of the Iranian nation and are becoming isolated on the domestic front.

Thus, this report strengthens the possibility of a [word indistinct] insurrection by those Iranians wanting to overthrow the mullahs' regime.

FREE VOICE OF IRAN: WAR WITH IRAQ 'EXCUSE'

NC141348 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Guinea president and the Islamic Conference delegation that went to Tehran for the purpose of ending the Iran-Iraq war have departed without obtaining any results. Thus, the war, which has been imposed on the two nations of Iran and Iraq because of the Iranian regime's attempts to export its revolution, continues.

Thousands of families are in mourning and millions have been made homeless. But for a thousand and one reasons Khomeyni's regime wants the war to continue and shows no interest whatsoever in peace. Even though the entire world is saying that the continuation of the war is to the benefit of the Zionists and in the interests of the imperialists, and that nothing but the further destruction of the two countries' resources and the killing of their soldiers will be achieved, the tyrants in Iran are continuing to turn a deaf ear. The reason being that, if the war ends, how will the regime be able to solve the thousands of economic, political and social problems? At least now they have an excuse to crush anyone who talks, anyone who asks for bread and water, anyone who wants his New Year's bonuses and wages, anyone who demands his rights, anyone who wants freedom and speaks of it; and anyone who raises his voice in protest. They have an excuse to tell all these people: "We are in a state of war. We are giving martyrs and others want bread and water. We give martyrs and others ask for their New Year's bonuses and wages. We are at war and some godless non-Muslims go on strike." In short, they can now cut short any protest using the war as an excuse. If the war ends, how can they use clubs and machineguns to silence protests? Of course, they will most probably then find another excuse.

Now the hostage issue and the regime's play acting have ended. But another play, the play of the war--a war behind which all the shortcomings, all the defeats and all the chaos can be hidden--is continuing. Khomeyni's regime is now using this tool.

It is not without reason that the Tehran leaders insist on the continuation of the war, because if there is no war there will be no excuse to crush the people.

Khomeyni's regime will not stay still until its objective--the total destruction of Iran--is achieved. The antinational and anti-Islamic regime of Khomeyni is fighting neither for the country's life nor to throw the Iraqi soldiers out and safeguard Iran's territorial integrity. The regime is fighting for its own perpetuity. If the regime were pursuing the goal of safeguarding the country of the Aryans, then it would not have shattered Iran's strong army from the very beginning of Khomeyni's sedition. It would not have dismissed thousands of armed forces personnel on the chimerical excuse of "purging" the military and it would not have executed (?hundreds). If the regime wanted the country to be safeguarded and the wheels of industry to start operating, it would not have upset order as it did and it would not have stopped millions from working. This regime makes Islamic claims and has placed Islam as its shield behind which it commits any crime and treason it can and crushes any [word indistinct].

While the entire universe, from East to West, Muslims and non-Muslims, acknowledges that everything Khomeyni's regime does is exactly contrary to Islam and a clear violation of (?the Koran), the clergy and mullahs ruling the regime show no shame and, by continuing their anti-Islamic deeds, are disgracing Islam. They are disgracing Islam in the world and are showing no shame for doing so.

What the regime (?does well) is lie and disseminate lies. It is using misleading slogans to lengthen its short life and save its flimsy regime. It is not important if millions are killed in this process. It is also not important if millions become homeless or jobless. The important thing is for Hashemi-Rafsanjani to continue to be the Majlis speaker, for Beheshti to (?maintain) [words indistinct] and for the turbaned and unturbaned ministers to stay in power. The important thing is for the power-thirsty executioner to stay in power. If the people have no bread, if there is no gasoline and oil, if there are no jobs, bonuses and wages--these are all unimportant to the executioner ruling Iran. These reckless men, who are mad with their thirst for power, say: "We do not attach value to a better life and welfare. We do not understand anything about the economy." They are right because their stomachs and pockets are full and their bank accounts are in the millions. How can a full stomach know what an empty stomach feels like?

The liars ruling the regime are using their lie-churning loudspeakers to speak of the war between Islam and the infidels, but none of them wears a uniform or goes to the front.

In order to (?kill thousands) of Iran's youths, they hang "the key of paradise" around their necks and send them to the fronts.

They do not want to make peace because if the war ends and the regime is unable to find a new excuse, it will be forced to reply to people who ask: Why did you want to export your bloody revoluton and, by interfering in the domestic affairs of others and especially of neighbors, start a war that has caused nothing but destruction and death? Why didn't you agree to end the war at its outbreak or immediately afterward, and why have you sent so many children to be killed? Since the regime has no replies to these questions and since it is weak and on the verge of downfall, it blames all the chaos that exists and that they themselves have created on the war. In this chaotic situation they are fishing in muddy waters, hoping that they might alter the ominous destiny awaiting them and postpone payment for the crimes they have committed. But these futile efforts not only will not affect their inauspicious fate but very soon the Iranian nation will rise and take its revenge--a revenge unprecedented in history--on these criminals. That day is not very far away.

RADIO IRAN REACTION TO DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Ban on Bani-Sadr Speeches

GF151821 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Text] Beheshti has forbidden any participation by Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in public speeches until further notice. Reports from Tehran indicate that Musavi Ardabili, the prosecutor general, acting on Beheshti's order, has banned any speeches or participation in public events by Bani-Sadr, the president of this clownish government. The reports also indicate that the reason for the cancellation of a football match on Friday, which was to be viewed by Bani-Sadr, was due to the same ban.

Comment on Government Infighting

GF151933 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 15 Mar 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The disagreement within Khomeyni's group is now taking the form of a fatal wound that will eventually lead to the destruction of the regime. The past threats and the present silence by Khomeyni on the subject of the [word indistinct] attacks of the two groups of Bani-Sadr and Beheshti show that he is also unable to use any influence over his lackeys. The continuation of the struggle between the ruling groups also indicates their lack of compromise. There is not a chance of compromise between them under any circumstances.

Considering these facts there is no doubt that the fight between the ruling groups will lead to a full-fledged war in the near future. In reality the main effort of Khomeyni's lackeys for some time has been to spread their fight to the people and directly involve them in their show of strength. Thus, they have been following two clear lines: First, to strengthen their front against the enemy invasion and second, to stop a popular uprising against the Islamic Republic. Khomeyni's gang, even with its considerable stupidity, is aware of the fact that without an Islamic Republic it would have no place or purpose in Iran. All the competing factions are, therefore, connected to the regime with an umbilical cord. Their interest thus lies in ignoring the public rebellion--which has reached its limits after 2 years of force and terror--and calling the antiregime demonstrations a fight between their supporters.

The recent sermons by Bani-Sadr, in which people were officially called to rise against Beheshti's gang, and his calculated move in the Tehran University (?affair) are parts of this plot. At the same time this full-fledged war cannot be (?carried out) without weapons.

The formation of the presidential guards is, therefore, an important step in this direction. Using this trick openly Bani-Sadr intends to use the deep-rooted disagreement between the armed forces and the revolution guards to his own benefit. This means that in the guise of presidential guards and (?relying on) their sporadic fights with the revolution guards he intends to bring the army into his battle against Beheshti's gang.

We must be aware of these plots and neutralize them. Different groups of people and our brother soldiers should show that their main enemy is the Islamic Republic and all its authorities. The bitter experience of the past 2 years is sufficient to recognize the enemy. None of these individuals can claim that they had a smaller role than the rest in the bloody purges of the army, its involvement in an unwanted war and the creation of chaos and insecurity.

They are all equally guilty of treason against our country and now--with clear understanding and on the basis of a calculated plan--are trying to immerse the whole country in war. Be aware of and know that if the plots of Khomeyni's gang become reality, and the people and the members of the disciplined armed forces become involved in the power struggle of the ruling groups, there will be no other result than the immersion of our homeland in a destructive civil war. We should never, for a moment, forget that our deliverance and continued existence lies in the destruction of Khomeyni's black regime. Instead of becoming an instrument to satisfy the ambitions of this or that group, we should rise against the regime in a united front and throw Khomeyni's gang and their inauspicious plots in the garbage can of history. This message is of prime importance since the ruling groups are condemned to destruction and will eventually destroy each other.

Firing Reported in Tehran

NC171508 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] According to reports, last night clashes broke out in various parts of Tehran between national struggling forces and revolution guards of Khomeyni's regime. A witness, who saw the clashes in south Tehran, reported in (?a telephone conversation) that the sound of shooting could be heard (?until after midnight) [words indistinct].

Secret Peace Talks Condemned

NC131657 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] In recent weeks, various groups affiliated with the Islamic Conference, the nonaligned nations and the United Nations have intensified their mediation efforts between Khomeyni's regime and Iraq. These groups are trying to end the war as soon as possible.

Of course the continuation of the war, as a phenomenon full of death and destruction, cannot be confirmed by any person in either country, but as far as the Iranian nation is concerned, we should be especially alert to see at what price peace is gained. Surrendering to the enemy and giving Iran's territory to the foreigner cannot be called "peace."

Unfortunately, information gained from the talks with the Islamic Conference mediation committee indicates that Khomeyni's rule has showed an inexplicable flexibility on the principle of accepting Iraq's territorial claims and has not paid any attention to the preservation of the rights of the Iranian nation and to the country's territorial integrity.

Even though the lying mass media of Khomeyni's rule does not say anything about the continuation of indirect talks with the Iraqis, nevertheless, reports received indicate ministerial level talks continue in secret along with the mediation of the Islamic Conference. The mediation committee is hopeful about the possibility of a rapprochement between the two sides.

The motives of Khomeyni's rule in such munificence regarding our country's territory are completely clear. Khomeyni did not enter the war to ensure the rights of Iran; he is not insisting on keeping these rights now. He imposed this destructive war upon the oppressed Iranian people because of his desire to export his bloody revolution to Iraq. Now, in order to save his rule from the swamp in which it has sunk, he is agreeing to Iran's partition.

It is necessary to give you, dear compatriots, explanations regarding the views of the National Resistance Movement of Iran regarding the activities of the mediators and the conditions for peace. As far as the National Resistance Movement of Iran is concerned, the 1975 Algeirs agreement, on the basis of which the borders of Iran and Iraq have been specified, still stands. This point has been confirmed repeatedly in the movement's statements and declarations and has also been repeatedly broadcast from Radio Iran. We believe that the border disputes between Iran and Iraq can and should be solved in the framework of this agreement. If any mistake has been committed in the past as far as the mode of implementation and the specification of borderlines, these should now be corrected on the basis of this pact. If parts of the agreement were not previously implemented, this should be considered, but, at any rate, the National Resistance Movement of Iran does not tolerate, under any condition, the handing over of even one inch of the homeland's territory to foreigners. The National Resistance Movement of Iran will use all its means to safeguard Iran's territorial integrity.

At this time when various groups have entered the scene to mediate between Khomeyni's regime and Iraq, only a government elected by the free vote of the people and relying on Iran's nationalism can sit at the negotiating table and safeguard Iran's national interests and historic rights. Khomeyni's rule surely lacks this important factor.

Mullahs Attacked

NC131513 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] On the afternoon of Monday, 27 February, Khomeyni's envoy to Turkey and two of his bodyguards from the revolution guard were attacked in the Istanbul bazaar by a number of the regime's opponents and were seriously injured. Even though the attackers of this mullah, who is called Seyyed Morteza Hoseyni Na'ini, have not been identified, it is being said that during his few weeks' stay in Turkey all the Iranians residing in Istanbul have been enraged over the exertion of illogical pressures and reactionary decisions in the management of the Iranian consulate and the Iranian school.

Reports from Iran indicate that in recent days in Esfahan, Tabriz and Tehran similar attacks took place against a number of corrupt clergymen. One of these clergymen, Shaykh Akbar Razavinezhad, is in critical condition.

Call for Uprising Reiterated

NC141819 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] In the name of the Iranain nation, in the name of justice and freedom and with hopes for the homeland's freedom we begin Radio Iran's programs today. This is the true voice of the Iranian nation. This is the voice of freedom seekers and Iranian strugglers. This is Radio Iran.

Compatriots: At a time when our dear country and homeland is drowning in blood and [word indistinct]; at a time when the Kurdish fighters, these noble men and women, are being killed by Khomenyi's mercenaries in a corner of our homeland; at a time when the justice-seeking cries of other compatriots are being stifled and the children of Iran are martyred in Baluchistan by Khomenyi's revolution guards;

at a time when, above all these, parts of our homeland's territory are occupied by foreign troops, and at a time when our Iran, from east to west and from north to south, is facing the danger of downfall and partition, it is important for each and everyone of us--and our human and national duties commands us--to rise up and throw out the masterminds of Iran's destruction and killing from the holy land of the homeland.

Oh noble Iranian women and men: The true children of the homeland await you to join them in the NEQAB [Nejat-e Qiam-e Iran-e Bozorg] organization. The comrades-in-arms of those martyred in the 9 July uprising are awaiting you, noble Iranians.

Compatriots: Join the true children of Iran. Join the comrades-in-arm of the martyrs of the national uprising of 9 July. Respond to the strugglers of the NEQAB organization. Respond to Shahpur Bakhtiar, the leader of Iran's National Resistance Movement. Let us move, in unity and with strong steps, toward Iran's freedom.

Central Bank Employees Arrested

NC141755 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] Four employees of the Central Bank of Iran have been arrested and imprisoned; they had placed a photocopy of a draft showing foreign exchange sent by Mullah Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Europe at the disposal of the foreign mass media.

Two months ago Hashemi-Rafsanjani exchanged 200 million tumans in cash for dollars. He transferred this amount, through the Central Bank of Iran, to his personal account in France. News of this impudent robbery from the nation's budget was broadcast at the time from Radio Iran and it was also published in Iranian newspapers abroad. The four Central Bank employees who have been arrested have been charged with placing the photocopy at the disposal of opponents of the regime.

NVOI COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

12 Mar Commentary

TA121939 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 12 March carried a commentary, entitled "Desist From Obstinacy and Stubborness in the Task of Administering the Country," which said that the approval by the Majlis of the prime minister's candidates for the Ministries of Economy and Finance and Commerce is regarded as the first practical step toward completing the Cabinet. By refusing to approve the candidates proposed by the government, President Bani-Sadr left very important ministeries without supervisors for nearly 6 months during conditions in which an unjust war has been imposed on the Iranian nation by world-devouring U.S. imperialism and its accomplices in the region. Through this ill-considered and nearly unprecedented act, the president himself actually dealt very heavy and unforgivable blows to the revolution and its gains. If, under the conditions of an imposed war, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economy and Fianance and Commerce had not been left without supervisors, we would not be facing the present difficulties.

During this period the imam of the nation repeatedly pointed out the necessity of appointing supervisors to ministries without ministers, and demanded the immediate solution of this important problem. He publicly declared that weakening the government is regarded as treason. However, not the slightest attention was paid to this recommendation and warning of the imam. It became very obvious that the Iranian president was not ready to appoint any individual to the post of minister except individuals favored by himself. If during this period one takes a brief glance at Mr Bani-Sadr's statements and writings, one can clearly see that all of Mr Bani-Sadr's efforts and attempts were aimed at weakening and discrediting the revolution's institutions.

Wisdom and logic dictate that Mr Bani-Sadr should have welcomed the resolution of the Cabinet's problem, at least for the sake of respecting the imam of the nation and the true forces of the revolution. However, unfortunately, he again assessed the confirmation of the ministers and the approval by the Majlis of the bill for appointing supervisors for ministries without ministers as disregard for the voters of the nation who elected him president. It is not obvious on which principles of the Constitution this view of his is based. Not sufficing with this, he says that this could have dangerous consequences, adding that God knows what will happen to the revolution now. It must be said that in fact the existence of the Islamic Republic in Iran, the revolution and its gains are facing serious dangers. However, this danger is not posed by the true forces of the revolution and the sincere followers of the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line. Rather, it is posed by world-devouring America and its agents in the visage of the liberals, American Maoists, shah-lovers and counterrevolutionaries, with whom Mr Bani-Sadr is, willingly or unwillingly, on the same line.

13 Mar Commentaries

TA132013 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 13 March carried two commentaries:

The first, entitled "Let Us Strive to Promote the Aims of the Revolution," said: Finally, after months of delay and intentional obstructionism by elements associated with the liberal bourgeois, the difficulty concerning the completion of the Cabinet was overcome and the supervisor and ministers of three key ministries--foreign affairs, commerce, and economy and finance--were approved by the Majlis. Now one can be hopeful that the Cabinet will henceforth perform its legal duties to the best of its ability and that the appointed ministers will strive to remedy the damages and losses incurred in the past. There is no need to elaborate on the fact that the aforementioned ministries shoulder very important and heavy responsibilities, whether in the international arena or within the country.

For example, in the case of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, although 2 years have passed since the victory of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution of the Iranian nation, all are aware that, unfortunately, our country has not had a defined foreign policy that conforms with the principles of the Iranian nation's revolution. The reason being that after the revolution the affairs of this ministry were entrusted to agents like Dr Ebrahim Yazdi and Sadeq Qotbzadeh, who were linked and continue to be linked with thousands of visible and invisible threads to Western imperialist circles, especially American. The Ministry of Commerce also was in a similar situation. The Ministry of Economy and Finance, as well, was not exempt from this general condition and from the disruptions that were being carried out by the liberal bourgeois.

At any rate, although after months of delay and intentional obstructionism the ministers and the supervisor for these three key ministries have been finally appointed, it is still not too late. The Iranian revolution is moving forward. All revolutionary institutions, particularly government organs, should exert their efforts toward promoting the aims of the Iranian revolution. The people expect officials and administrators to put aside all differences and to desist from personal and private prejudices. The people demand that the principle lines of our country's foreign policy be drafted, planned and implemented in the direction of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution. The people demand that the government's economic and trade programs be planned and implemented by taking into consideration the interests of the country, the nation and the Iranian revolution. It is only in such a case that one can gain the confidence of the people and succeed in promoting the aims of the Iranian revolution.

The second commentary, entitled "We Are in Need of Establishing Sound Relations With Other Countries," said: The leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic has repeatedly advised the government that Iran should establish relations with other countries of the world on the basis of the principle of complete equal rights and mutual interests.

In fact, in our world and in our era no country can remain indifferent to having trade, social and cultural relations with other countries of the world. Every relation and contact with the other countries of the world cannot be a cause for dependency. One cannot call any relation and contact with the outside world dependency because human beings, societies and countries are in need of contact with each other. The important thing is the form of this contact and relationship. In the present era we are witness to the fact that even the world's great countries, which are the greatest economic powers, cannot be absolutely self-sufficient and not need other countries.

The dependent capitalists, whether during the former shah's regime or during the post-revolutionary era, have prevented the development of trade relations and technical and economic cooperation with socialist countries. At present, these capitalists and their liberal supporters have embraced the Maoist slogan of struggle against the superpowers and of expanding relations with Western Europe. The vain belief of some of these gentlemen is that allegedly Western Europe possesses an economy that is not dependent on world-devouring America. Therefore, expanding relations with, for example, France, Britain or West Germany will not create dependency for Iran. This is a childish and astonishing idea. However, some of our country's officials allegedly believe in this idea or pretend to believe in it. The fact is that in the capitalist world and in developed countries one can hardly find a company or monopoly that is independent or divorced from dependency on others. You cannot name a company in a capitalist country in Western Europe or Japan that is not dependent, one way or another, on U.S. companies, monopolies and cartels.

On the whole, the relations of our Islamic Republic with any other country should be based on the principle of respect of our national sovereignty, devoid of any political conditions and on the basis of complete equal rights and mutual interests. Our homeland is not and cannot be without need for such relations and contact.

14 Mar Commentaries

TA142037 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 14 March carried two commentaries.

The first, entitled "The Liberals Sow Wind and Will Reap a Storm," stated that the liberals, these dangerous foes of Iran, have become extremely angry these days. The divulgence of their behind-the-scene plots in the bloody incident of the university, the defeat of their treacherous and counterrevolutionary plan for hindering the completion of the Cabinet have made these true friends of U.S. imperialism restless. So much so that the MIZAN newspaper has constantly distorted facts and invented lies.

The former corrupt regime--by using its vast propaganda machinery, with a whole (?army) of SAVAK executioners, with thousands of U.S. advisers and tens of newspapers with the close cooperation of the imperialist mass media--conducted activities that are now being carried on by the liberals, Maoist groups and MIZAN, along with some other newspapers such as AL-ASR, PEYKAR, RANJBAR and even, regretfully, ENQELAB-E ESLAMI.

The struggling people of Iran, who have obtained their freedom and independence thanks to many years of bloody struggle against a plunderous regime, are not and never will be ready to lose their freedom and independence at any price. But the liberals and their newspapers have the heavy and at the same time ignominous mission of turning the history of Iran backwards. They exert every effort for transforming the goals of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution and returning U.S. imperialism to Iran in order to regain the threatened interests of big capitalists, landowners and murderous feudalists.

These liberal gentlemen and their gang can be told that they are taking pains in vain. They should know that they are sowing wind and will only reap a storm. The liberated people of Iran are very well aware of their condemned methods of struggle and will never allow them to install their sovereignty over independent Iran.

The second commentary, entitled "Regarding National Problems, Let Us Take a Stance From a Revolutionary Point of View," stated: As we have often said, when the gains of the revolution are being endangered, it is the duty of all the true forces of the revolution and all the committed organizations and parties to pay attention to the main problems in our society: safeguarding the gains of the revolution against the plots and aggressions of imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism and its agents inside our homeland. It is appropriate to pay attention to one of the acute problems in our society--the solution of the problem of national minorities, especially the problem of Kordestan. Paying heed to this problem is essential because lately the leaders of some organizations, such as Mr Qasemlu who portrays himself as the defender of the rights of the Kurds, have given press conferences inside Iran and abroad at which they relate their treasons against the people and their close cooperation with counterrevolution and the foes of Iran's freedom and independence. Without doubt, the plots and provocations of syping organizations such as the CIA, Mossad and SAVAK all have created an atmosphere of disatisfaction and mistrust in Kordestan. The spy organizations have inflicted and continue to inflict strong blows on the noble Kurdish nation. The fact is that the Kurdish nation wants to run its own affairs in the framework of the Islamic Republic of Iran in order to freely benefit from its national culture and language. If this self-rule is in the interest of the Kurdish nation and the eradication of imperialist domination, it will be to the advantage of the Kurdish nation and all the peoples of our country. But if self-rule is a tool in the hands of imperialism and counterrevolution and a (?means) for inflicting blows to the revolution, then it is a mask for counterrevolution.

During these moments, the important thing for all the peoples of our country is to place themselves in a joint line and joint struggle for saving Iran from imperialism and its Iranian agents, as well as the securing of political and economic independence for the Islamic Republic of Iran. With revolutionary awareness and patience we should pay attention to the acute problems of society, namely, the solution of the problem of minorities, and learn from past bitter experiences.

15 Mar Commentary

TA151913 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 15 March carried a commentary entitled "The Final Victory of the Revolution of the Iranian nation and prevalaence over world-devouring U.S. imperialism and the aggressive stooges of this world-devouring imperialism, depends on the immediate implementation of land reform. The matter that has made millions of Iranian toiling farmers hopeful was that the imam of the nation, as well as other religious and political committed personalities, has recommended the distribution of land among farmers and to this day demands the immediate implementation of this law with revolutionary decisiveness.

The provisional government of Mr Bazargan, especially his agricultural minister, hindered the distribution of land among the oppressed of the villages and unfortunately, from the overthrow of the provisional government until today, no considerable success has been achieved in this field. The liberals--with the aid of their secret hands in sensitive military and administrative organizations, especially by taking advantage of the opposition of some great eminences and officials responsible for land distribution--have caused a delay in the implementation of this law, inflicting a great blow on the revolution and its gains while extending the greatest help to big landowners and feudalists.

Contrary to the opinions of those opposed to land distribution, factors such as the conditions of war, economic crises, lack of some agricultural products, the lack of use of land in some parts of the country, as well as the necessity of attracting the support of dispossessed farmers and making them active in the popular and anti-imperialist line of the imam are factors confirming the necessity of implementing land reform as soon as possible.

The imam of the nation, true leaders of the revolution, committed members of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, true followers of the imam's path and all the forces committed to the revolution support the farmers and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for implementing land reform.

16 Mar Commentary

TA161909 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 16 March carried a commentary entitled: "The Formation of a United Popular and Anti-Imperialist Front Is the Current Issue." It said: The incident at Tehran University and the plots hatched by the bourgeoisie liberals and their counterrevolutionary allies, such as the U.S. Maoists in this or that corner of our country, have once again proven the view of the true revolutionary forces that reaction and counterrevolution have once again risen and are ready to inflict blows on the revolution and its gains at any moment. From practice we can observe that the liberals, Maoists and other such elements have practically formed a united front of reaction and are busy hatching plots against the Iranian revolution. In the face of this united front of reaction it is right that the true and committed forces of the revolution take measures for establishing cooperation and unity of action among themselves. As we know, unity of action among these forces during the revolutionary period was the most important (?trump) for overthrowing the satanic regime. There is no doubt that today, too, such unity of word and deed is currently one of the most essential issues.

For some time now, the true revolutionaries of our country have raised the slogan of "United popular front." But, unfortunately, this true revolutionary slogan, due to the prejudices and superficiality of some, has not been adhered to. The creation of this united popular front--especially today when the revolution and its gains are exposed to the aggressions of the imperialists and domestic reactionaries--is an essential issue for the final and decisive victory of the revolution. it is a well-known fact that the liberals and the multicolored groupings of the extreme right and left exert every effort to prevent the true revolutionary forces from uniting in a popular united front. But one cannot disregard the fact that some groups and forces who are naturally true to the revolution knowingly or unknowingly prevent the formation of this front. These forces, which exert every effort for maintaining discord among the true forces, apparently do not wish to realize that this action is tantamount to handing a poniard to the counterrevolution.

The interests of the Iranian nation and revolution should be placed above the wishes and inclinations of individuals and groups. Every effort should be directed for creating unity of word and deed of the true revolutionary forces. The glorious revolution of the Iranian people is continuing to progress despite the plots and subversive activities of the enemies. It is only by creating unity of word and deed among the true revolutionary forces that the efforts of the foes of the revolution for hatching plots can be made more difficult and the continuity of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution of the Iranian nation secured.